

Workshop on Sampling Design and Estimation of Commercial Catches: Cod-Kat (WKSDECC I)

The **Workshop on Sampling Design and Estimation of Commercial Catches: Cod-Kat (WKSDECC I)** chaired by Katja Ringdahl*, Sweden, and Kirsten Håkansson*, Denmark, will meet in ICES Headquarters, Copenhagen, Denmark, from 29 May to 02 June 2017, to:

- a) Document national sampling designs of commercial catches of cod-kat back to 2002, commenting on their statistical soundness and the quality of data they can deliver.
- b) Document national estimation methods of commercial catches of cod-kat back to 2002, commenting on their statistical soundness and the quality of estimates they deliver.
- c) Populate the latest version of RDB-exchange format and evaluate how well it fits data collection and estimation of commercial catches of the stocks, for input to the SC-RDB
- d) Develop R-script(s) that run on the latest version of RDB-exchange format and produce InterCatch estimates. Compare results from that script with estimates previously uploaded to InterCatch and evaluate differences.
- e) Produce a WD summarizing the findings, research needs and a roadmap for commonly agreed improvements in sampling and estimation that consider future needs of assessment of this stock.
- f) Present outcomes at the next WGCATCH meeting

WKSDECC I will report by 30 June 2017 to the attention of ACOM and SCICOM.

Supporting Information

Priority	This workshop is considered to have a high priority for documenting and evaluating the quality of past and current commercial data collection and estimates used by ICES assessments, and for the testing of the new exchange format and development of the estimation of the new RDB being developed by the ICES Data Centre.
Scientific justification	<p>The documentation of current and historical national sampling designs has been pointed out and promoted by several ICES EGs (e.g., WGCATCH, PGCCDBS, WKPICS, SGPIDS) as a fundamental aspect of the transparency and quality of sampling and estimation of commercial catches routinely carried out by ICES member countries and delivered to ICES Assessment Groups. Furthermore it is an important first step for the regional coordination of sampling programmes and discussions on the improvement of the startistical soundness of the sampling programmes that will also ensure that, in the future, it will be possible to re-estimate historical data when new methods are developed and/or new end-users needs appear. Similar documentation of current and historical estimation practices is also fundamental for transparency and data quality but has received less attention, with many ICES stocks having estimation practices at present undocumented. This workshop will use cod-kat as a case-study for testing the historical documentation of national sampling designs and estimation methods on the stock back to 2002 (ToR a-b), and discuss the quality of past data and a road-map for future improvements (ToR e). Cod-kat was selected as a case-study because it is a relatively simple fishery (only two major players, Sweden and Denmark) and the stock is currently being benchmarked having a need for re-estimation of historical commercial data at spatial domains that are different from the ones previously submitted to its assessment groups (WGBFAS).</p> <p>The development of RDB is considered fundamental for ICES work and to improve the efficiency and transparency of data provision to end-users (e.g., WGCATCH 2015, 2016). It</p>

	<p>is also a requirement for future regional sampling programs designed to improve the quality of commercial data used in ICES assessments. The ICES Data Centre has recently been awarded funding for the RDB development that is setting in motion changes and adaptations and will ultimately yield a new RDB with a new exchange format that encompasses statistically sound sampling data and an estimation module capable of delivering improved “InterCatch-level” estimates as input to assessment. This workshop will use cod-kat as a case-study for testing the population of the RDB exchange format (ToR c) and the development of R scripts for the estimation module of the RDB (ToR d).</p>
Resource requirements	<p>Participants will be requested to document sampling designs and estimation methods ahead of the meeting using a specific format; and to bring to meeting a) historical commercial data on the stock (from 2002 onwards) stored in the latest RDB exchange format, b) historical intercatch estimates from that stock (from 2002 onwards). Member countries not participating in the meeting but with a significant share in the fishery will also be requested to provide similar data in similar formats. WGBFAS will be consulted to identify their future needs of commercial data for assessment purposes. 1-2 top-level external experts in the area of statistically sound sampling and estimation may be invited to attend the meeting and review the quality of final outputs. ICES funding may be requested to ensure their participation is possible.</p>
Participants	<p>The target attendance are participants from member countries involved in the fishery (including staff responsible for sampling design, estimation and data submission at national level and/or carrying out stock coordination and assessment at ICES level) and the ICES Data Centre. 8-10 participants are expected to attend, possibly some by webex. The final group of participants should ensure the level of expertise in statistically sound sampling, estimation, r-scripting, RDB development, and stock coordination/assessment needed to carry out the ToRs. 1-2 external experts may be invited to participate.</p>
Secretariat facilities	<p>Some secretarial support will be needed. Webex facilities may have to be provided. The WK should take place in 2017. Therefore it will need to be approved by ACOM early in 2017.</p>
Financial	<p>Member States may fund this through their EMFF programme. ICES funding (travel funds, per-diem) are required to ensure the participations of 1-2 external experts.</p>
Linkages to advisory committees	<p>ACOM and SCICOM</p>
Linkages to other committees or groups	<p>WGCATCH, WGBIOP, PGDATA, WGBFAS, SC-RDB</p>
Linkages to other organizations	<p>RCM/RCGs</p>